

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2848
ANSWERED ON 6TH AUGUST, 2025**

QUALITY OF MOBILE/INTERNET SERVICES IN REMOTE AREAS OF LADAKH

2848. SHRI MOHMAD HANEEFA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that despite recent improvements in digital infrastructure, network congestion continues to severely affect the quality of mobile and internet services in remote areas of Ladakh such as regions like 144 RCC NPD Road Neyraks Village as these areas have become highly populated due to the presence of labour settlements, camps of GREF and heavy traffic along the Nimmu-Padam-Darcha (NPD) road and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure enhanced, high bandwidth, and uninterrupted mobile network coverage in rural and border villages of Ladakh that can address the increasing pressure of tourists, students and essential services dependent on digital connectivity; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch any special telecom development package or scheme for hilly, tribal and border regions such as Ladakh under the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) or Digital India initiatives and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

- (a) As per the Performance Monitoring Report for June-2025 published by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India for mobile services, all Telecom Service Providers have met the prescribed quality of service benchmarks in Jammu & Kashmir License Service Area, which includes Ladakh region.
- (b) & (c) For providing high bandwidth capacity internet/broadband connectivity and mobile services to remote, hilly, tribal, border & rural villages in the country, including Ladakh, following projects have been taken under Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) [erstwhile Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)]:
 - i. **BharatNet project** – BharatNet project is to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages in the country. All 193 Gram Panchayats (GP) of Ladakh have been made Service Ready through satellite.
 - ii. **Amended BharatNet Program (ABP)** – Under this program, existing network of BharatNet Phase-I and Phase-II to be upgraded in the country and creation of network in balance 42,000 GPs. The connectivity to remaining non-GP villages (about 3.8 lakhs) of the country are proposed to be provided on demand basis from their respective GPs.
 - iii. **4G Saturation and other mobile projects** - 175 mobile towers have been commissioned in uncovered remote & rural villages of Ladakh.
